

NEW PLYMOUTH.

Dear Bee, August 17.  
The gentlemen of Mrs Boults' dancing class gave a most

ENJOYABLE DANCE last Friday evening in the Freeasons' Hall, and although the former did nothing in the decorating line, they gave a most recherche supper. Among those present were: Mrs Boults, black, trimmed with gold lace; Miss Kirkby, cream, and gold ribbons; Miss B. Kirkby, cream, and gold ribbons; Mrs Penn, white muslin; Miss Batten, yellow; Miss E. Fraser, blue, and white lace; Mrs Avery, black; Miss Hoby, cream; Miss E. Hoby, blue; Miss G. Paul, pink silk skirt and tulle bodice to correspond; Miss Humphries, white, with sprays of violets; Mrs Dowling, cream; Miss Q. Boults, white; Miss L. Ellis, pink, and cream lace; Miss Ruddle, cream; Miss Newitt, white and yellow; Mrs Foote, fawn, trimmed with pink chiffon; Miss J. Cottier, terra-cotta blouse, white skirt; Miss L. Cottier, white; Miss Avery, cream and gold; Miss Jacob, cream; Miss E. Hursthouse, pale blue; Miss Parker, white; Miss L. Jackson, dove-coloured dress; Miss A. Jackson, cream; Miss S. Cunningham, scarlet and cream lace blouse, dark skirt; Miss M. Roy, cream; Miss Moffin, pale yellow and chiffon trimmings; Miss A. Avery, white; Miss Burgess, yellow muslin trimmed with black ribbon; and Messrs Harris, Webster, Humphries, Lusk, Dempsey, Parker, Batten, Mackay, Wynn-Williams, Kirkby, Spence, Paul (2), Holdsworth (2), Scot, Elliot, Hursthouse, Avery, Hoby, Berridge, Moulton, Foote, McIntyre, Halse, Woodhouse (2), Bayly, Ford, Neil, MacDiarmid.

The Cycling Club held a PLAIN AND FANCY DRESS BALL in the Theatre Royal on Thursday evening, and was a great success. There were no floral decorations in the hall, but the walls and in front of the dress circle were hung with bicycles, which gave it a very quaint appearance. The supper tables, which were arranged by Misses G. Paul and J. Lawson, looked very pretty decorated with the Club's colours, red and white. Besides the merry throng of dancers, there were crowds of spectators on the stage and in the dress circle, and the music, which was rendered by Mr McKinnon Bain's orchestra, was very tantalising to the latter, as they could not go down and join the former. The music for the first mazurka was specially composed and dedicated to cyclists by Mr McKinnon Bain, and will be published shortly. The ball was opened at 8 o'clock by the grand march, which was splendid for showing off the dresses. During the evening Masters E. Bayly and Avery did some very clever trick riding, and there was also a bicycle race between Mr Forbes and Mr D. George, ridden on Home trainers, and won by the former. There was a prize given to the best dressed fancy costume of lady and gentleman, and was won by Mrs Hayward as "Court Lady" and Mr Moulton as "Sir Joseph Porter."

I must now tell you what the others wore. Miss Treely looked splendid as Queen Elizabeth; Mr Messenger, Gondolier; Mrs Messenger, Court Lady; Mr Taunton, black and white; Mrs Taunton looked striking as Queen of Hearts; Mr Mace, Italian; Mrs Mace, French Vivandiere; Miss Hsworth Red Cross Nurse; Mr Ad. Goldwater, Captain of Hussars; Miss Hart (Auckland) looked exceedingly well as Duchess of Devonshire; Mr Moulton, Sir Joseph Porter; Miss O'Donnell, Stars and Stripes; Miss B. O'Donnell, Carmen; Mr A. E. Nathan, Spanish Admiral; Miss E. Weller, the Sun; Miss Bellringer, Folly; Miss Allen looked well as a Red Cross Nurse; Miss Bellringer, Star Footballer; Mr Strouts, Looking Backward; Mr F. Thomson, Crooketer; Messrs Kirkby Wynn-Williams, and Spence went as the "World's Trio"; Miss A. Moon, Japanese Lady; Mr Ken. Webster looked splendid as a Schoolgirl; Mr Barclay, Sailor; Mrs Barclay, evening dress; Miss Weller, Night; Miss Kyngdon, Snow Storm; Mr Frost, Merchant Naval Officer; Miss Dennehy, Erin; Miss Hayward, Early English; Miss Atkinson, Eileen Alannah; Miss M. Bennett, "Taranaki News"; Miss Rawson, England and America; Mr H. Bennett was much admired as Old Mrs Tris; Mr E. Sole, Maori; Mrs Sole, Vivandiere; Mrs G. Pott, Magpie; Miss Batten, Fox; Mr H. Goldwater was very laughable as a Sandwich Man, alias Bainbridge; Mrs H. Goldwater, Cinderella; Miss Mouschamp, Sykes' Cura Cough; Mr Brown, William Pitt; Miss Mann was an exact character of Klondyke; Mr Sykes, Cricketer; Mr Penn, Jester; Mrs Penn, Herod; Master Nathan, Pierrot; Miss

Naval Officer's evening dress; Miss R. Bennett, Sunny Lea Tea; Mr P. Webster, Nigger; and many others whose names I did not know. Those who wore evening dress were: Mrs Boults, yellow and black; Miss Kirkby, green and cream; Miss Gabb looked pretty with white over pink; Mrs Fenton, yellow; Miss Smith (Auckland), green and violet; Miss F. Avery, cream and yellow; Miss Clarke, blue, trimmed with darker shade; Miss B. Kennell, white; Miss E. Kennell, white, and blue feathered bon; Miss Jacob, white; Miss Hanson, pink and black; Miss Crocker, blue; Miss Gill, white; Miss Pearce, white and blue; Miss Pearce, white, with heliotrope silk; Miss Hanson, yellow; her sister, white; Mrs Leatham, black satin; Miss Decker, white; Miss Lawson, blue; Miss A. Weston, white silk and lace blouse; Mrs H. Weston, pink silk blouse, black silk skirt; Mrs C. T. Mills, pink; Miss H. Humphries, pink and cream; Miss Drake, white; her sister wore pink; Mrs Dowling, white; Miss Abbott, white and pale blue; Mrs D. Cock, black silk; Miss Cock, pink; Miss M. Taylor, pale blue blouse, white skirt; Miss Irvin, pink and grey; Mrs Hall, green silk blouse; Miss Foote, pale blue; Miss M. Skeet, scarlet silk blouse; Miss D. Biggs, yellow; Miss Cunningham, scarlet silk and white lace blouse; Miss Bedford; Miss Fraser, yellow, and scarlet sash; Miss J. Fraser, blue; Misses Berridge (2), blue; Miss Dalziel, white; Miss Thomson, white blouse; Miss Cornwall, yellow silk blouse; and her sister wore magenta; Mrs Ab, black silk; Miss M. Humphries, blue and yellow; Miss Edgecumbe, cream, and scarlet sash; Miss Davy, white and yellow; Mrs Paul; Mrs Eva, blue silk; Mrs Mont. Mills; Miss M. Eva, white silk. Among the gentlemen were: Messrs Parker, Lusk, Weston, Halse, Harris, Webster, McIntyre, Raynes (2), Levine (Nelson), Brash, Scot, Forte, Holdsworth (2), Humphries, Berridge, Woodhouse, McNeil, Bal Harry, Drs. Home and Leatham, etc.

NANCY LEE.

BLENHEIM.

Dear Bee, August 14.  
The dancing season is now nearly over, and the last of the Dorothy Assemblies, held by the Misses Clare and M. Ewart took place in the Good Templars' Hall last Wednesday evening. The arrival of the Wairarapa footballers the same evening interfered with the attendance of several gentlemen, and different reasons prevented others being present, consequently ladies preponderated. Nevertheless it was a jolly dance; the music was lively and the floor good. The supper, abounding with most tempting delicacies, was set out in the room adjoining the hall, and the feathery and fragrant mimosa and crimson japonica were the flowers used to decorate the table. Miss Healy was pianist, and the extras were played by the Misses Clare, M. Ewart, E. Ball, C. Farmer and Mr Butler. Present were: Mrs Edwards, whose dress was shot with blue, and finished with white lace; Mrs Macalister, black, mauve and cream chiffon fichu; Mrs E. Nosworthy, black; Mrs Shaw, black, blue, white satin bodice; Miss Clare, black skirt, white figured silk bodice, the sleeves formed of narrow chiffon frills; Miss M. Ewart, pink; Miss Mullen, coloured muslin, amber sash; the Misses L. and E. Purser, white silk; Miss Ellen Purser, white halstone molesin; Miss Blunnie Mills, blue; Miss Grace Mills, white; Miss A. Morrison; Miss —, Morrison, white; Miss Edith Ball, black skirt, sulphur silk bodice; Miss Ida Ball, cream dress, with rows of narrow satin ribbon and chiffon; Miss Jeffries, black skirt, sky blue silk bodice and white lace; Miss T. Compton, black skirt, pretty cream silk bodice, finished with ribbon and chiffon; the Misses Arundel and Amy Neville, one in pink, the other in yellow; Miss Furness, pretty pale blue dress, trimmed with narrow black velvet; Miss Carter, bright red dress, and pretty white fichu; Miss R. Elbeck; Miss M. Elbeck, white dress and heliotrope ribbons; the Misses Macalister (2); Miss Ivy Ewart, white; Miss L. Nosworthy, pale yellow; her sister, white; Miss Bottrell, cardinal dress; Miss A. Robinson, pink; Miss Beatson, pale blue; Miss Kate Beatson, black velvet, with bertha, front of bodice, and sash of gold coloured silk; Miss Norton, red dress; Miss MacLaine, black skirt, red bodice and black lace fichu; the Misses J. and K. —, McCartney both wore white; Miss Broughan, black; her sister wore white with a shot silk

Messrs H. Burden, Butler, Palmer, F. Mullen, Broughan, F. Sotwell, A. Rayner, C. Simson, E. Macalister, C. Beatson, F. Shaw, F. Bull, J. Mead, W. Mathews, S. Henderson, Drake, C. Carey, Stow, MacLaine, C. Koolgers, Blakely, A. Nosworthy, W. Girling, Quane, etc.

Mrs Howard has been very seriously ill and indeed is still so, though a slight improvement has taken place, and she is now considered to be on the way to recovery. We shall be pleased to see her out and about again, but diphtheria is so very weakening that it generally entails a tardy convalescence. Mrs Howard's sister, Mrs McNab, was staying with her, and has assisted to nurse her, though a professional nurse had to be procured.

Steps are already being taken to make the Plain and Fancy Dress Ball given by the Wairau Cricket Club a great success, and many are the inquiries for suggestions about fancy dress, though I suspect that at the last only about a dozen will appear in other than the ordinary evening dress, for none are to be hired here, and to get them from Wellington would be expensive. This ball, and a Catholic social early in September, will be, I suppose, the last dances this season.

The Wairarapa Football Team played our local representatives on Thursday afternoon, and defeated them by 11 points to 3. They had been equally successful in Nelson; but I notice in this morning's paper that the tables were turned on them in Wellington, where their triumphant progress was stopped. One of their men had a rib broken here, and therefore could not play in Wellington.

FRIDA.

NAPIER.

Dear Bee, August 18.  
Mr and Mrs Wood gave an enjoyable Euchre Party at their residence, the Boys' High School, on Friday last. There were six tables, and after the euchre, which lasted till ten o'clock, a delightful little dance took place until half-past two. Among the guests were the Misses Cornford, Tanner, Florence Watt, Simcox, Nellie Cotterill, Heath, Hall, Wallis, Twigg and Balfour, and Messrs Stuart, Tanner, Cornford, Dixon, Howell, Grumit, Hughes, Cotterill, etc. The first prize, a pretty framed engraving, was won by Miss Wallis, and the men's prize by Mr Grumit.

Mr and Mrs Turnbull, of the Bluff Hill, also gave a Euchre Party on the same evening, when about twenty-five guests were invited, and an enjoyable evening was passed. The players consisted of Mesdames East, Goldsmith, Moore, Rhodes, Griffin and Night, the Misses Sutton (2), Campbell (Wellington), Kennedy, Kitty Williams, Marie Locking, Janie Heath, etc.; and Messrs Tabuteau, Kight, Margoliouth, Mathias, C. D. Kennedy, Jones, Smith, Dobson, Goldsmith, Dr. Moore, etc. The first prizes were won by Miss Clampitt and Mr Jones, and the boobies by Miss Kennedy and Mr Dobson.

Miss Heath gave a pleasant little impromptu dance at the Boys' High School Gymnasium, on Tuesday evening, as a breaking up of her winter classes. Some of those present were the Misses Cornford, Wood, Nellie Cotterill, Seale, Wallis, Balfour, etc., and Messrs Cornford, Howell, Cotterill, Margoliouth, etc.

The Plain and Fancy Dress Ball held at Waipawa on August 16th proved a bright gathering. The company numbered 110, notwithstanding the heavy rainfall. The committee included Messrs W. Arrow, J. A. Cosgrove, Downer, J. Golder, Grenside and J. Pellow. Mr Grenside acting as secretary, and arranging everything to perfection. A string band played all the newest music, and the dresses were singularly fresh and pretty.

MARJORIE.

PICTON.

Dear Bee, August 14.  
There is little to chronicle this week except that everybody has been paying calls to Mrs Riddell at Cam House, and Miss Harris in her new home, which is situated in one of the prettiest parts of Picton.

On Wednesday evening THE FOURTH WINTER SOCIAL eventuated successfully in the Sunday school. About one hundred people were present, and all of them enjoyed themselves amazingly. Among the items were a duet, "Life's Dream

V. Fuller; song, "Until Then," Miss Allee; selection (Danjo), Miss Hay; song, "The Old Brigade," Mr Bathgate; song, "The Admiral's Broom," Mr J. Price; selection (violin), Mr D. Lloyd, piano, Miss Edith Lloyd; song, "Logie o' Buchan," Mrs Bathgate; song, "The Garoune," Mr Malfroy, who was enthusiastically encored and gave "The Maid of Malabar," song, "Afton Water," Miss Howard; song, "Nancy Lee," Mr C. Philpotts; song, "Remember Me No More," Miss Macintosh; song, "The Little Hero," Mr Macintosh; Mr Moon, who is a clever elocutionist, gave two amusing recitations, which ended a very long programme. The Misses Fuller (3) and Webster (2) were warmly congratulated on the success attending their efforts, which concluded with a capital supper. Among those present I noticed Mesdames Sedgwick, Robertshaw, Allen, Smith (2), Wilkins, Scott, Morris, Godfrey, Sealy, Williams, Instone, Fuller, Price Lloyd, Jackson, Cragg, F. Godfrey, Parfitt, etc., etc., the Misses Harris (2), Philpotts (3), Cragg (2), Norgrove, Allen (3), Sealy (2), Hay, Smith, Seymour, Parfitt, Rutherford, and Messrs Price, Malfroy, Moon, Fredericks (2), Smith, Bathgate, Lloyd, Gibbs, Macintosh, Seymour, Nash, Clemmens, Howes, etc., Ven. Archdeacon Grace, Rev. A. H. Sedgwick.

A public social and presentation are to be given to Mr and Mrs Rutherford previous to their departure for their new home, the Teterangu Run, the spinsters and bachelors are combining to give another ball next month.

A goodly number of Picton friends were at the steamer to wish Mr and Mrs Dobbie and family a kind goodbye on Wednesday night. There was much regret at the parting expressed by both sides.

JEAN.

CHRISTCHURCH.

Dear Bee, August 16.

On Thursday, at Oakover, MRS NEAVE'S DANCE was like the preliminary canter before the Grand National, for this event is over with us now, and we are deep into much dissipation this week. Rain fell pretty heavily on Monday night and early Tuesday morning, but the sun got the best of it as the day grew older, and only a few ladies who had any intention of seeing the Grand National run, or who became the happy possessor of the magnificent bracelet which has been displayed in Sandstein's window for the last week or so, were intimidated out of being present at Hicooton. The dresses were of the brightest description, but owing to the wet lawns the stand was kept pretty crowded all day. Mrs G. G. Stead wore a light green cloth costume and seal cape, white ostrich feather boa, toque of forget-me-nots and green; Mrs A. Boyle, black velvet skirt, black cloth tunic, and black and white hat; Mrs A. E. G. Rhodes, black cloth costume, the revers of white braided in black, black hat with black and white feathers; Mrs G. Rhodes (Claremont), dark green cloth dress, fawn sac coat, black toque, green sequin trimming and black feathers; Mrs R. Macdonald, dark red costume, seal cape, black velvet hat; Mrs E. C. J. Stevens, black cloth coat and skirt, pink and white vest, black bonnet with pink flowers, grey feather boa; Mrs G. Gould, violet cloth costume and long jacket, hat to match; Mrs Denniston, black coat and skirt; fancy silk vest, black and white bonnet; Miss Denniston, bright blue gown braided with black, the yoke and small vest of tucked white silk, black and white hat with pink flowers; the Misses Johnstone (Wellington), red cloth coats and skirts, black hats; Miss Pole-Penton (Wellington), brown coat and skirt; Mrs G. Rhodes (Meadowbank), violet cloth gown, fawn cloak, violet hat and plumes; Mrs J. D. Hall, dark blue costume relieved with black and white; Mrs J. Turnbull, royal blue dress, fawn sac coat, bright red quills in her hat; Miss Cowlishaw, dark green dress, fawn jacket, dark hat brightened with pale blue; Mrs W. B. Cowlishaw, violet cloth dress, dong grey driving coat, large hat with feathers; Mrs F. Cowlishaw, dark green cloth, the bodice finished with a lighter shade and passementerie, large hat to match; Mrs Ogle, black and white check costume and black Eton jacket braided with white, black toque with violets and green; Mrs Wardrop, pretty costume of brown and heliotrope, hat to match; Miss Palmer, black and white check costume, black